(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTEROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b)and(c) Do not arise.

Nationalisation of Rivers

3971. SHRI GANDHI AZAD : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to nationalise all rivers in the country to help prevent drought and ease drinking water problems; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTEROF STATE DM THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) and (b) There is no proposal to nationalise the rivers in the country.

Cleaning of Canals in U.P.

† 3972. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the bridges constructed over the various canals in the districts of Muzaffarnagar, Azamgarh and Mou have become damaged and the canals remain to be uncleaned;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to get the bridges repaired and the canals cleaned ?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTEROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject, maintenance of irrigation projects including repairing of bridges over the canals and cleaning of canals are planned, executed and funded by the State Government out of their own resources and as per their own priorities.

Allocation of water among States

3973. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the formulation of guidelines for water allocation amongst States have been finalized;

(b) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has agreed not to construct any dam on river Mahanadi; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTEROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):

(a) No, Sir. The guidelines for water allocation amongst States were discussed in the 4th meeting of the National Water Resources Council held on 07-07-2000 under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister and as decided therein, the guidelines were referred to the Working Group of Irrigation/Water Resources Ministers of all the State/UTs under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Water Resources to achieve greater convergence and agreement on issues involving divergent views amongst the members of the Council. First meeting of the Working Gorup was held on 22nd May, 2001. Finalisation of the guidelines by the Working Group depends on attaining consensus among the States/Union Territories having divergent views on various issues.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.